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helped out some bright little girls, at the seashore, in filling up all the forgotten places of this jingle, we achieved quite a triumph, in our own opinion, over the letter X. The only pocket dictionary obtainable at the hotel had but two words beginning with that letter ; but we eked them out as follows : —

Double-X 'xtended Xerbes on a xebec.

It may be remembered that a xebec is a kind of boat, and that "Double-X" is very strong English ale.

T. W. Higginson.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

PEACOCK FEATHERS. — The Chinese superstition is just the opposite of the American. Chinese think they bring good luck and keep off sickness, and always put them up in shops and houses on holidays.

Abby L. Alger.

BOSTON, MASS.

CHRISTMAS GARLANDS. — In Providence, R. I., I find that it is the custom to hang Christmas garlands not in the rooms, but without the house, by suspending them on a nail beneath a window. Can any reason be given for this practice ?

Abby L. Alger.

RECEPTION BY THE DEAD. — Among certain negroes, locality unknown, a custom prevails of a reception by a dead person. The corpse is dressed as if for a festival, in its best clothing ; the usher announces, "The corpse will now receive his friends ;" and those present enter and depart with greetings and farewells, given as if the dead person were capable of comprehending.

Helen P. Kane.

WILMINGTON, DEL.

A COUNTING-OUT RHYME. — The following paragraph is taken from "The Midland," a college monthly published at Atchison, in this State : —

"Here is a relic of boyhood. It is the old method of 'counting out' to determine who is 'it.' 'Ery, ory, ickory, anne, bob-tailed vinegar barrel, tickle up a tan. One's out, two's out, three's out, zarum, bee baw, buck, you're out.'"

F. G. Adams.

TOPEKA, KANSAS.

CEREMONIAL CIRCUIT. — I shall be very glad to obtain additional information as to the ceremonial circuit, or the direction taken in the performance of rites (whether with the course of the sun, or contrary to such course), either among modern or ancient races.

J. Walter Fewkes.

65 CHARLES STREET, BOSTON, MASS.